

SCVR Meeting Minutes
December 11, 2006
Hilton Suites at Lexington Green
Lexington, KY

Members Present

Tammy Lee Allen; Lisa Durham; Doris Haney; Dana Haugsted; Ann Holstein; Nancy Hunter; Darrell Mattingly; Chair; Kathryn McGee; Martina Netherton; John Reisenberg; Terry Shockley; Vicki Staggs; Judith Swim; George Warren; and Juanita Westerfield.

Members Absent

Jane Burnam; Lee Gordon, Co-Chair; John L. Jones; and Teresa Winkler.

Staff Present

Ralph Clark, Sherri Greer, Holly Hendricks, Allison Jessee, Dave Matheis, Mike Sanders, Nanci Shelden, Greg Willett, and Mindy Yates.

Guests Present

Judy Gooch, Interpreter; Tom King, Interpreter; Laura Kogut, Captioner; and Karen Rossi.

Darrell welcomed everyone to the Council and introductions were made.

Executive Director Update

Ralph Clark began by expressing his gratitude towards the Council and their many congratulatory notes made towards the OVR staff regarding the 5012 positive employment outcomes (PEO). Mr. Clark continued to report that while exceeding the number of PEO's, the agency still remained under budget and had enough money to carry over into the next year. He continued to explain that Governor Ernie Fletcher received 20 million dollars in federal funds to use towards computer networks for college universities and high schools. Some of this money went to the Education Cabinet and Mr. Clark was pleased to announce to the Council some of the money will be going to the CDPVTC. The use of these funds would allow CDPVTC to obtain state of the art wireless internet in all dorm rooms and in the lobby of the Center. Mr. Clark continued to report the short session of the General Assembly convenes and no major issues would currently affect Vocational Rehabilitation (VR). However, there would be one issue to affect VR and this would be changing of the name of the Perkins Center to the Carl D. Perkins Vocational Training Center (CDPVTC). This would be taking place in the near future. One of Mr. Clark's initiatives is issues with communication between Central Office and the Field offices. He was pleased to report to the Council that the staff of the Central Office has constructed a Central Office Communication team. This team would be meeting on a quarterly basis and the purpose of the team will allow them to give feedback to the managers. Mr. Clark also explained to the group that an OVR online newsletter will be implemented in the near future. Mr. Clark proposed the Council have access to a half of a page to submit into the newsletter. Mr. Clark included there would be a training on eligibility and substance abuse held in late February. Mr. Clark concluded by reporting the first Annual Exceptional Service Award will be given out to honor staff who have done quality work over the past year.

The Council broke out into their Committees.

Dave Matheis provided a presentation on Standard and Indicators and was well received.

Cheryl Martinez provided a presentation on Job Placement and PACE and was well received.

Business Meeting

Darrell called the meeting to order at 2:03p.m.

Motion to Approve Minutes

Terry Shockley first. George second. Motion carried unanimously.

Chair Report

Darrell Mattingly began by reporting he had participated in a conference call with the SRC Leadership in the Southeast region and obtained valuable information. Mr. Mattingly also reported to the Council he has begun the process of trying to develop a resource plan. Mr. Mattingly concluded by explaining he had awards to present for Beth Smith and Marlene Huff. Unfortunately they were not able to be present at the meeting and the awards would be delivered to them.

Program Services Report

The Program Services report was provided by Sherri Greer. Sherri began by discussing the 5012 Positive Employment Outcomes (PEO) and thanked the Council for all of their support. Mrs. Greer explained that her division would be presenting and discussing the latest VR trends during the March meeting. Sherri stated she would like to highlight each of the branches during the training portion of all Council meetings.

Ms. Greer introduced Patty Conway who is the Deaf and Hard of Hearing Services Branch Manager. Ms. Conway provided a brief presentation on the branch and its functions which was well received.

Staff Report

Mindy Yates provided the Staff Report and explained there had several events carried out on behalf of the council since the last meeting. The Visioning Forums are currently being conducted and will finish up soon. The feedback from the Forums should be available to the Council in the upcoming months. Advocacy training with guest speaker, David Allgood will be held on February 6, 2007. Mrs. Yates continued to report that she and Darrell Mattingly participated in the teleconference call with SRC Leadership of the Southeastern States. Ms. Yates, Dave Matheis and Jason Jones have been working on the Annual Report and continue to do so. She concluded by assuring the Council the Executive Director is working diligently on appointments for the Council. There are five positions within the Council that are not filled.

CAP Report

Vicki Staggs provided the Council with a report and a booklet about Client Assistance Program (CAP) services. It described the program's functions and contained information about self-advocacy. The booklet provides the reader with all the different CAP Offices around the nation as well as an acronym list. Mrs. Staggs explained to the Council that the staff of CAP wanted to distribute information to the public to let people know that CAP is here to help the consumers.

SILC Report

Martina Netherton provided the Statewide Independent Living Council (SILC) report. Mrs. Netherton began by reporting that SILC is currently waiting on appointments. She informed the Council that SILC members are preparing to implement the SILC state plan and in the process of scheduling the SILC statewide public forums. The SILC will hopefully begin writing the state plan in March. Mrs. Netherton explained that the members of SILC distributed a survey to consumers and advocates who are not receiving services at this time. She concluded by saying that the SILC would begin discussing the next Independent Living conference either in August or September.

Committee Reports

Executive Committee

Darrell Mattingly reported he will open the floor for volunteers to sit on the Nominating committee during the new business portion of the meeting. He further reported that the Executive Committee had to approve the agenda and discuss the upcoming CSAVR meeting.

Public Awareness, Legislative, and Advocacy Committee (PAL)

Nancy Hunter provided the PAL committee report in absence of the chairperson, Teresa Winkler. Ms. Hunter began by reporting that the committee spoke briefly about Medicaid buy-in.

Discussion turned to the Annual Report. Ms. Hunter explained that the group went over the Annual Report page by page and made suggestions. She also reported that, Mindy Yates, Dave Matheis, and Jason Jones would be working report diligently over the next few weeks.

Ms. Hunter commended Dave Matheis for providing an excellent update on the self-advocacy training policy and what type of events OVR has conducted with the self-advocacy trainings in the past. The committee made suggestions for the trainings. The committee decided to leave it up to the districts on how they would like to conduct those trainings. Ms. Hunter said that a list of presenters would be provided to all districts.

The discussion turned to marketing OVR. The committee received rough draft copies of brochures to send to businesses and consumers. The committee is making a plan on how best to distribute those.

Discussion turned to the upcoming 874K Advocacy Coalition Event and the Legislative Breakfast. It will be on February 7, 2007. An Advocacy training will be conducted on February 6, 2007 from 6:00 – 8:30p.m. David Allgood will be the guest speaker. Ms. Hunter explained that reservations need to be made through Nanci Shelden.

Ms. Hunter concluded by reporting that the CSAVR meeting will be held in Bethesda April 22-25. The Council will vote today on who to send. The Executive Committee suggests Darrell Mattingly and one new Councilmember to attend for continuity since Darrell's term ends in May.

Policy and Planning Committee

Motion from the committee to provide the Council with semi-permanent nametags to wear to Forums, conferences, exhibits, etc. Darrell Mattingly opened the floor to suggestions. Terry Shockley second. Motion carried unanimously.

Consumer Services and Program Evaluation Committee

This committee came to the conclusion that the budget section on the employee performance evaluations has tendency to weigh too heavily on the staff's performance. No second is needed. **Motion** to only use budget criteria on performance evaluation when counselor has shown a propensity for going over budget. Darrell opened the floor for discussion. Motion carried unanimously. **Motion** made by committee that the quality and quantity be valued as equal weight on the performance evaluations to the district manager's discretion. Darrell opened the floor for discussion. No second is needed. Motion carried unanimously.

Interagency Coordinating Committee (ICC)

Mindy Yates informed the Council that the ICC had scheduled a meeting in November but due to the hectic schedules of committee members, it was rescheduled. Darrell volunteered to work with Lisa Durham and Lee Gordon to see if this committee meets its purpose.

Old Business

Darrell Mattingly entertained a **motion** that he be given permission to approve the final draft of the Annual Report on the Council's behalf. Second by George Warren. Motion carried unanimously. Darrell agreed to work with the agency to get the Annual Report on time on the Council's behalf. The adhoc Bylaws Committee is currently working on issues related to appointments.

New Business

Darrell Mattingly entertained a **motion** that the Council supports the district advocacy event as discussed during the PAL committee. George Warren first. Juanita Westerfield second. Motion carried unanimously. Darrell Mattingly reminded the Council to invite a person with a disability to the Advocacy training on February 6, 2007. Mindy Yates informed the Council to contact Nanci Shelden as soon as possible in order to get lodging and other accommodations for the event.

Darrell Mattingly opened the floor for volunteers to serve on the Nominating Committee. The Nominating Committee involves assigning a slate of officers and approaching people to ask them if they would be willing to serve and present to that slate at the end of the March meeting. The committee is also obligated to recruit people in their community. This would be a council duty but the Nominating Committee heads up the effort. George Warren, Vicki Staggs, Nancy Hunter, and Darrell Mattingly volunteered to serve on the Nominating Committee. The tentative date for the Nominating committee's first official meeting would be in February.

The **motion** to support the minimum wage to whatever the federal government recommends in the 2007 legislative year. Second by Dana Haugsted and Ann Holstein. George Warren recommended writing a letter in support of this. **Amended motion** is to support the minimum wage to whatever the federal government via mail/letter. Darrell opened the floor to discussion. Motion is passed unanimously and the letter will be written and sent on behalf of the Council.

Questions were raised about whom and to what agencies the OVR online newsletter will be distributed to. The Council, as a whole, feels it would be appropriate to be involved with the agency newsletter. Some suggestions made by the council members were, to include a quarterly paragraph about the council and its activities, highlight three council members and contain information on why they wanted to serve on the Council, to spotlight OVR staff and their accomplishments, and to include photos of the people the newsletter is highlighting. Darrell Mattingly volunteered to write the blurb about the council and submit it to the newsletter. A suggestion was made by Terry Shockley that the title of the blurb be called "The Council Corner". **Motion** to have Darrell responsible for the content of "The Council Corner" goes through the chair for the council made by George Warren. Vicki Staggs second. Darrell Mattingly opened the floor to discussion. No discussion was made and motion carried unanimously.

Discussion turned to upcoming events. The OVR Eligibility and Substance Abuse Training will occur at General Butler in late January and mid-February. The Advocacy Training will take place in Frankfort at the Fairfield Inn and Suites on February 6, 2007 from 6:00 – 8:30PM. The 874K Advocacy Event will take place at the Frankfort Civic Center on February 7, 2007 from 8:00 – 11:00. Please contact Nanci Shelden if you would like to attend any of these events.

The Executive Committee will be come together after the meeting. The CSAVR will occur in April and the council will request Darrell to attend and one other person go to meet his/her legislators. Lee Gordon has volunteered to be that second person. The Executive Committee included in the request that a staff person submit a request and also be present for the event. Darrell entertained a **motion** that Darrell Mattingly and Lee Gordon and one staff person attend the CSAVR conference in April. Dana Hausted first. Juanita Westerfield second. Motion carried unanimously.

Adjourn

Motion to adjourn made by Vicki Staggs. Second by Juanita Westerfield. Motion carries unanimously.